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August 29, 2005

Mitchell B. Wasson, Esq. HOFFMAN, WASSON & GITLER, PC 2361 Jefferson Davis Highway, Ste 522 Arlington, VA 22202

Re:

U.S. Patent Application 10/042,236

Order Returning Undocketed Appeal to Examiner

Dear Mr. Wasson:

Enclosed for your records is the original Order Returning Undocketed Appeal to Examiner that was inadvertently sent to me rather than to you as attorney of record in the abovereferenced application for U.S. Patent.

Good luck with your appeal.

your Very truly

CJR:jld

Enclosure

cc:

Mr. Craig R. Feinberg

Program and Resource Administrator

The opinion in support of the decision being entered today was \underline{not} written for publication in a law journal and is \underline{not} binding precedent of the Board.

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

MAILED

AUG 2 3 2005

U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

Ex parte GEORGE M. HALOW and LOUIS E. ZUNIGA

Application No. 10/042,236

ORDER RETURNING UNDOCKETED APPEAL TO EXAMINER

This application was electronically received at the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences on July 8, 2005. A review of the application has revealed that the application is not ready for docketing as an appeal. Accordingly, the application is herewith being returned to the examiner. The matters requiring attention prior to docketing are identified below.

Application No. 10/042,236

The Examiner's Answer dated November 30, 2004 (pg.4), fails to address the rejection of Claims 21, which was previously rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Peterson et al. (Patent No. 6, 343, 271) in view of Little et al. (Patent No. 5, 359, 509) and Kienle, Kenneth, "Clamping Down on Code Creep" in the Final Rejection of August 15, 2003.

Accordingly, it is

ORDERED that the application is returned to the examiner for resolution of the following issues:

- 1) clarifying the examiner's intention regarding the 103(a) rejection as identified above; and
 - 2) any further action as deemed appropriate

It is important that the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences be informed promptly of any action affecting the appeal (i.e. abandonment, rissue, reopening prosecution).

BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS

CRAIG R. FEINBERG

Program and Resource Administrator

(571)272-9797

CRF/dpv

Application No. 10/042,236

Mr. Christopher J. Rourk Godwin, Gruber, LLP 1201 Elm Street Renaissance Tower Dallas, TX 75270 Application No. 10/042,236

Mr. Christopher J. Rourk Godwin, Gruber, LLP 1201 Elm Street Renaissance Tower Dallas, TX 75270